

Examination of Nurses.

Notice is given in the daily papers of this city that the State Board of Examiners of Tennessee will hold examinations in the parlors of the Young Women's Christian Association building on the sixth and seventh of October. The notice further states that it is against the law of this state to practice nursing as a graduate nurse without a license. When this Board held examinations the last time in this state, colored women were denied the privilege of taking the examination. Now the question arises, what position would a court take if a colored woman who is a graduate nurse should be arrested for practicing her profession?

Never before in the history of Tennessee have professional people been denied a right guaranteed to them by the constitution of the state. Lawyers and doctors always take the same examination at the same time. School teachers and those who desire to engage in other professional pursuits have never been refused when they applied to take an examination. It has remained for the State Board of Nurse Examiners to deny colored women what is by law and principle their right to receive.

We contend that the action of this board in refusing to give the examination to colored nurses renders the said board of non-effect.

There are colored nurses in Tennessee who have graduated from the oldest and best nurse-training school in the country. So the refusal of the Board to give them examinations can not be on the ground of incompetency. The people of the state desire that colored nurses be given the examination, and the majority of people prefer colored nurses to white, but in the face of all this the Board has heretofore absolutely refused to give colored nurses the examination.

Governor Hooper in his message made special mention of the attitude of this Board, and recommended that the matter be remedied. It is left to be seen whether or not the attitude of the Board has changed. It is hoped that the position taken during last examinations will not be adhered to in this examination. All Boards of Examiners in this state, with the exception of this one, have shown the

kindest sympathy for the colored citizens in the state. They have granted them every privilege due them, and Tennessee cannot afford at this late day to have her record blighted with such an unjust and unreasonable discrimination.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Sept. 9, 1913

The National Negro Nurses Convention met last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Emancipation Hall, 1352 Lombard St. The nurses represented nearly every state in the union. They were welcomed to the city by Hon. Harry W. Bass, Secretary of the Emancipation Celebration Commission. Owing to the incomplete condition of the hall on the exposition grounds, the final reception was held in St. Peter Clavers Hall when the Nurses and citizens of Philadelphia led by Mrs. Mary R. Tucker, a graduate nurse and Mrs. Helen Stevens Bayton, a social leader of Philadelphia, gave the nurses a grand reception. Mrs. R. M. Clark of Richmond, Virginia, was reelected president.

Meet Next Year at Norfolk.

It was decided by unanimous vote to meet next year at Norfolk, Va., which would have been the place of meeting this year had the Nurses not decided to meet in Philadelphia on account of the Emancipation Celebration. The Nurses went away highly pleased with their cordial treatment in Philadelphia.

NATIONAL BODY OF NURSES IN SESSION

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE, 9-11-13
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Sept. 10.—The sixth annual session of the National Association of Colored Nurses was held September 3, 4 and 5, at the Emancipation Hall, 1352 Lombard street. Two hundred and fifty nurses, representing nearly every State in the Union, were present. The welcome address was de-

livered by Hon. Harry W. Bass, and was responded to by Miss S. E. Chrystie of New York.

Dr. N. F. Mossell spoke, and interesting papers were read by Miss R. L. Williams of New York, the Misses Elizabeth Miller, Emma Gibson, Mrs. M. Hackley and Miss Emma Rogers.

The nurses were entertained at the Douglass and Mercy hospitals and the final reception was held at St. Peters Clavers Hall, under the auspices of the nurses of Philadelphia, led by Mrs. R. Tucker, a graduate nurse, and Mrs. Helen Stevens Bayton.

Officers for the ensuing year are: Miss M. F. Clark, Richmond, Va., president; Miss L. J. Mitchell, Norfolk, Va., first vice-president; Miss S. E. Chrystie, New York, second vice-president; Miss M. A. Thomas, Washington, D. C., recording secretary; Mrs. C. Sharp Morgan, Richmond, Va., corresponding secretary; Mrs. N. L. Kemp, treasurer. The Rev. Henry L. Phillips installed the officers. Next session at Norfolk, Va.